

# CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION AGENDA

Template

**CLEAN ENERGY FOR EU ISLANDS**

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## Introduction for authors of Island Clean Energy Transition Agendas.

The Island Clean Energy Transition Agenda is a strategic roadmap for the transition process towards clean energy as desired by the stakeholders on the island. This transition aims in the first place to decarbonise the island's energy supply. It can furthermore intend additional objectives such as reducing pollution, strengthening the local economy and improving the quality of life of inhabitants and visitors, while maintaining or improving the quality and security of supply.

The Island Clean Energy Transition Agenda is developed and agreed upon by the stakeholders on the island in their local language. Transition Agendas should be island-wide, i.e. cover at least the entire territory of an island. Where this makes sense, they may cover an archipelago. They should address the following energy services, with emphasis on the key sectors contributing to the full decarbonisation of the island:

- Electricity generation,
- Heating,
- Cooling,
- Transport on the island,
- Transport to and from the island.

The Transition Agenda is structured in two parts.

The aim of the First Part is to create a thorough understanding of the Island Dynamics, focussing on the present situation on the island. This first part is written by the Transition Team, a small group of dedicated islanders.

The Second Part comprises the Island Transition Path. This starts from a future vision of the island: what does the transitioned island look like? By identifying strategic targets, transition pillars, structural barriers and opportunities, this vision is linked to the present: what actions will connect the envisioned future with the present situation? The second part can be written by the same team as the first part yet requires the consultation of a larger stakeholder group.

The Transition Agenda is meant to bring added value to the ongoing island climate action by engaging all island stakeholders to work towards the common goal of complete decarbonisation. It describes the strategy regarding the engagement and mobilisation of the local community. By jointly preparing the agenda the actors make a first step in moving their island-wide clean energy transition forward.

As a minimum requirement, the Transition Agenda should at least cover the following aspects:

- Community building and stakeholder involvement to ensure continuity and clear understanding of each stakeholder's position, role and responsibility in the de-carbonisation process.
- A de-carbonisation plan bringing together the visions of the island community and the opportunities and actions to fulfil these. The progress is monitored and adjusted according to the collective vision of the island community.
- A financial concept to ensure feasible financial coverage for implementation of the de-carbonisation plan with the use of locally owned and managed financing solutions.

Following the provided template assures that each of these aspects is covered. At the same time, we would like to emphasize that this template is not cast in stone. As a secretariat we encourage islands to adapt and develop their own process to write the Transition Agenda, to make it most suitable to their specific island context. Therefore, consider this template and its guiding questions as suggestions of what can be included in the Transition Agenda. We aim to fully integrate previous initiatives and studies on energy transition and planning on the island in the Energy Transition Agenda.

The proposed methodology is based on best practices and lessons learnt from transition management experiences in Europe to address climate change at a local level. Pending the Island Secretariat's Transition Guidebook, interested readers are specifically referred to the Guidance Manual on Transition Management in the Urban Context, published by the Dutch Research Institute for Transitions (DRIFT),<sup>1</sup> which has been an inspiration for this Clean Energy Island Transition Agenda Template.

For any questions, do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat through [info@euislands.eu](mailto:info@euislands.eu).

For more information on the operation of the Secretariat consult [www.euislands.eu](http://www.euislands.eu).

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<sup>1</sup> Roorda, C., Wittmayer, J., Henneman, P, Steenbergen, F. van, Frantzeskaki, N., Loorbach, D., Transition management in the urban context: guidance manual. DRIFT, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Rotterdam, 2014. Available at [https://drift.eur.nl/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/DRIFT-Transition\\_management\\_in\\_the\\_urban\\_context-guidance\\_manual.pdf](https://drift.eur.nl/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/DRIFT-Transition_management_in_the_urban_context-guidance_manual.pdf)

## Preface

This Island Clean Energy Transition Agenda for <ISLAND> is the strategic and tactical roadmap for the transition process towards clean energy as desired by the stakeholders on the island. The transition aims to <Fill in strategic targets>.

This Island Clean Energy Transition Agenda was developed jointly by <Stakeholder 1>, <Stakeholder 2>, ... with support from the Clean Energy for EU Islands Secretariat.

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## Part I: Island Dynamics

The aim of the first part of this document is to give an overview of the island (or group of islands) for which the Energy Transition Agenda is developed. This starts from the present: what is the geographic, economic and demographic situation on the island? It includes a description of the energy system, which can include an island-wide Baseline Emission Inventory if this is available from other island initiatives. The island stakeholders are mapped and the position of the transition process in the regulatory context, including national, regional and local targets, are investigated.

Understanding the island dynamics by gathering all this information in a single document leads to a good starting point to develop the vision-based Island Transition Path in Part II.

## 1. Geography, Economy & Population

These categories correspond to those in the Application for Secretariat support.

### **Geographic Situation**

What are the island's geographical features that are relevant for the transition process?

### **Demographic Situation**

Are there any relevant demographic considerations in the context of the transition process?

### **Local Government**

What is the role of the local government in the transition process?

### **Economic Activities**

What are the main economic activities on the island? Do they have a strong impact on the island's greenhouse gas emissions?

### **Connection to the mainland**

What is the relation of the island with the main land?

## 2. Energy System Description

The scope of the description of the island's energy depends on the available technical expertise on the island. Many islands have at least a partial baseline emission inventory (BEI), for example through the Covenant of Mayors. In case this is not available, a qualitative description of the energy system per energy vector can be used to identify the main sources of emissions. In case all municipalities on the islands have BEIs, these can be unified into an island-wide inventory.

We strongly encourage islands that do not have a quantified baseline of energy consumption to make this part of their clean energy activities.

### **Electricity generation**

E.g. All of the electricity on the island comes from a diesel generator.

### **Heating**

E.g. Houses on the island are mainly heated through gasoil, though some of the houses have solar boilers.

### **Cooling**

Etc.

### **Transport on the island**

### **Transport to and from the island**

### 3. Stakeholder mapping

An overview of the local actors that are relevant for the clean energy transition on the island is useful to determine the governance of the transition and organise the stakeholder consultations.

A stakeholder engagement register can be used to identify decision makers that are important in the process.

Name	Organisation Type
	Perspective on the transition
	Engagement required

Figure 1: Stakeholder engagement register

#### Civil society organizations

What are the most important citizen-lead initiatives regarding energy transition on the island? (activities of individual citizens, grassroots movements, civil society organisations, energy cooperatives, etc.)

#### Businesses

What is the current or potential role of the business sector in the clean energy transition of the island? What have they already done?

#### Public Sector

Governmental Actors

Who are the most important municipal actors on the island and what are their political mandates?

Public Sector Economic Activities

This includes public utilities such as distribution and transmission system operators, water supply companies and municipal waste companies.

#### Schools and Academia

What are the schools and academic institutions (on or off the island) that are relevant for the island's transition process?

Higher Education and Research

What higher education and research institutions (not necessarily present on the islands) are relevant for the transition process?

Secondary Education

What secondary schools are present on the island?

Primary Education

What primary schools are present on the island?

## 4. Policy and Regulation

It is useful to investigate how the island transition process is embedded in the overarching policy and regulations. This allows to identify the political top-down targets that push the transition. This can include binding national and regional renewable energy or energy efficiency targets, but also the island's municipalities' commitment under the Covenant of Mayors. This is not limited to energy related target; also other regulation, e.g. flue gas regulation, can have a significant effect on the island's energy transition.

## Part II: Island Transition Path

The Island Transition Path is focused on making the bridge between the future vision of the island and the present situation. In the first place it brings the stakeholders together to answer the questions: What is the goal of the transition process? By identifying the possible technological and organisation pillars of the transition process, a pathway towards this future vision is detailed. Strategic considerations of the transition process are assessed by analysing the structural barriers and opportunities of the pillars.

The Island Transition Path is based on stakeholder dialogue sessions between the island stakeholders. A first session can be organised to focus on analysing the problem: “what is the transition challenge?” and identifying and agreeing on a desirable future for the energy and transport infrastructure of the island. Identifying guiding principles can help to shape this vision. Another session can be organized to identify the pillars of the transition: which technologies and organisation structures are promising to reach this vision. This can be in consultation with technical experts. The barriers and opportunities of each of the options is analysed. Another session can focus on elaborating the financing concept to reach the envisioned future.

## 1. Transition Governance

A clear governance structure is important for the success of the transition process. The stakeholder mapping can be useful here.

- What is the role of each stakeholder in the process and what are their resources? Who are the main drivers of the transition?
- How does it integrate the four stakeholder groups described above? How do they interact and collaborate?
- What is the role of local authorities? To what extent is ownership by citizens and local businesses foreseen?
- How can the interests, motives, and policy of the various stakeholders be aligned towards a common goal?
- What is the mandate of the body? E.g.: An independent platform that is set-up by the municipality with an advisory board from e.g. Renewable energy cooperatives, a local chamber of commerce, etc.

## 2. Vision

The vision aims to establish a shared goal for the transition process. This provides focus and creates the constraints within which the future transition activities can take place.

### Guiding Principles

This set of principles forms a statement of how the stakeholder group will operate to achieve its goals. The guiding principles are aimed to act as core values behind the island's energy transition and guide the methodological decisions to be made during the transition process.

Guiding principles can for example be:

- Energy democracy
- Complete independency from fossil fuels
- Self-sufficiency

### Strategic Targets

The strategic decarbonisation targets may be set for several dates in the medium-term future, e.g., in ten to twenty years from now, with 2030 as a main focus. They should be specific and ambitious, yet achievable. The strategy section relates to targets in a broader future vision and does not necessarily have to be quantified.

For example:

"Entirely decarbonize the use of energy on the island by <XXXX> (e.g., in 20 years from now), while maintaining or improving the quality of service in power supply."

Besides the strategic targets related to decarbonization, additional strategic objectives of the transition process can be defined. These relate to the additional economic, ecological and social benefits that can be reaped through the transition process. The focus here lies on the creation of value on the island itself.

For example:

- Reduce pollution locally
- Reduce dependency on energy/fuel imports
- Keep/make energy services affordable

### 3. Pillars of the Energy Transition

The Pillars of the Local Energy Transition identify the organisational structures and technologies that are found to be most relevant in the island's context to achieve the strategic targets. These pillars link the envisioned destination of the transition with the current island reality. These pillars can be identified per energy vector:

- Electricity generation,
- Heating,
- Cooling,
- Transport on the island,
- Transport to and from the island

Central questions are:

- What technological solutions are most suitable for the specific island context?
- What organisational structures will allow the transition to take place? Examples can be Public-Private Partnerships, Renewable Energy Cooperatives, etc.
- Which techniques will allow capacity building to take place?
- What are the best ways to disseminate the results and progress of the transition process?

#### **Electricity generation**

E.g.: Distributed PV generation supported by grants from the local municipality

#### **Heating**

Etc.

#### **Cooling**

#### **Transport on the island**

#### **Transport to and from the island**

## 4. Structural Barriers and Opportunities

The barriers and opportunities for each of the identified pillars of the energy transition are listed. The structural barriers are the obstacles that would prevent the transition to develop in the envisioned direction. These barriers can be regulatory, institutional and economic, but could also be technology-specific, historic traditions, infrastructure, etc. Opportunities, on the other hand, are the circumstances that are helpful to achieve the envisioned objective.

## 5. Financing concept

The financing concept investigates what financial framework the transition process will require and what involvement from 'external' investors (e.g. IPPs, utilities, financial investors and funds) is foreseen? Which business models are strategically desired: ownership, customers, service and energy streams, revenue streams, pricing, ...

## 6. Monitoring

Monitoring is an important part of the learning process of the transition. Both the transition process itself and the way that it is managed are monitored and reflected upon. This forms the basis to determine the next steps. There should have an emphasis on the transient character of the transition process and address the need for regular re-adjustment. Since transition processes are uncertain by nature, the Island Clean Energy Transition Agenda cannot be a static document. Through periodic reporting it can be revised and adjusted to accommodate changes of circumstances.

- How often will the monitoring of the indicators take place?
- How will the monitoring results be published or communicated?

### **Process monitoring**

Process monitoring should give a picture of the direction in which the transition process is moving. It can, for example, entail monitoring the relevant local actors and their positions, and also update the goals and instruments including the developments in the governing body and barriers to be overcome.

### **Emissions monitoring**

What energy and emissions indicators are monitored?

## References

Roorda, C., Wittmayer, J., Henneman, P., Steenbergen, F. van, Frantzeskaki, N., Loorbach, D., Transition management in the urban context: guidance manual. DRIFT, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Rotterdam, 2014.

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